Coal Based Power Plant at Hirma, Orissa

*639. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a proposal to set up a coal-based power plant at Hirma near Ib Valley in Orissa.

(b) whether the proposed project is to be set up in the joint-sector;

(c)if so, the terms and conditions laid down in the agreement between the Government and the partner in the private sector on investment, generation and distribution of power likely to be generated from that coal-based power plant;

(d) the expected time of commercial production; and

(e) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF POWER AND MINISTER OF MINES AND MINERALS (SHRI P. R. KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) Yes, Sir, a coal based mega power project in the private sector is proposed to be set up at Hirma with a capacity of 6X660 MW under the revised mega power policy announced in November, 1998.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The expected commissioning schedule of the project is 2005-2006 subject to financial closure being achieved by 31.12.2001. However, the actual commercial production date of the project would depend on the tying up of all the required inputs/clearances and achieving financial closure.

(e) The Hirma project is proposed to be developed by M/s. Southern Energy Asia Pacific Limited, Hong Kong (earlier known as M/s. Consolidated Electric Power Asia Limited), a wholly owned subsidiary of Southern Energy inc., through the MoU route. Five States namely, Gujarat, Rajasthan, Haryana, Punjab, and Madhya Pradesh have given consent to purchase power from the project. The Power Trading Corporation of India Limited (PTC) will purchase power from the Hirma project and sell the same to the off-taking States, under long term Power Purchase Agreements on back-to-back basis.